GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:267
ANSWERED ON:04.08.2016
Solar Street Light Project
Gopalakrishnan Shri R.;Muddahanumegowda Shri S.P.

Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is implementing the solar street light project to provide off-grid electricity and if so, the details thereof;
(b) the number of villages included under this project during the last three years and the current year and the target fixed for the ensuing year, State/UT-wise;
(c) the grants-in-aid provided to States for the implementation of the project during the said period, State-wise;
(d) whether any kind of shortcomings have come to light in the implementation of the project during the said period and if so, the details thereof along with the corrective steps taken thereon; and
(e) whether the Government has restructured/proposes to restructure the said project if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken by the Government to achieve the targets fixed under the said project particularly in rural and slum areas?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR POWER, COAL , NEW & RENEWABLE ENERGY & MINES (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a),(b),(c),(d)&(e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.
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Statement

Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) to (e) of the Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 267 for 4.8.2016

(a): Ministry of New & Renewable Energy (MNRE) is implementing Off grid and Decentralized solar PV Application scheme in which solar street lights are also covered and MNRE provides 30% Central Financial Assistance(CFA) for general category states and 90% in North East and Special category states to Central and State Government Ministries and their organizations (Not for Commercial organizations and corporations); Government Educationsl institutions, Hospitals, community centers, Anganwadis; Panchayat Ghars, State / Central Government Buildings, Police Stations, Police Posts ,vocational training centers and Government hostels.
(b): The list of number of villages covered fully or partially with solar street light throughout the country under Off Grid Programme of MNRE or by State Governments under their programme is given at Annexure I.
There is no specific target fixed for solar street lights. However, any demand from the States for solar street lights is considered by the MNRE subject to availability of funds.
(c): The details about CFA provided to the States for solar off-grid applications including solar street lights during last three years and current year are given at Annexure II.
(d): While no major shortcoming have been reported by the States with regard to implementation of solar street lights projects, some concerns regarding life of battery and upkeep of street lights are raised in meetings from time to time. MNRE scheme has provision of 5 year Annual Maintenance Contract (AMC) to be provided by the system supplier.
(e): MNRE is now supporting LED based Solar Street lights in order to bring in more efficiency and Lithium Ferro Phosphate battery in order to provide long maintenance free service. This is particularly beneficial for remote rural areas where servicing is difficult.

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